



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

13 March 1990

I have rewritten the
statement. Agree that we
should use it on Monday morning.
Dear Charles, assuming the elections proceed
as expected?

Elections in the GDR: Possible Statement by
the Prime Minister

The Foreign Secretary believes that a statement by
the Prime Minister after the GDR elections, once it is
clear that they have been conducted freely, would be useful.
A range of observers of the elections, from the Council of
Europe, European Parliament, the IPU and others will give
us an idea of the fairness of the elections fairly quickly.

Sir Geoffrey Finsberg, for example, who will lead
9 Council of Europe parliamentarians, aims to express a
view on the fairness of the elections on 19 March.

To have maximum impact, any statement should be
issued as early as possible on 19 March. This points to
a press release from No.10. I enclose a draft.

Yours ever,

Richard Gozney

(R H T Gozney)
Private Secretary

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amendments

I welcome ^T the free and democratic elections which took place yesterday in ~~East Germany~~. They mark a new beginning for the people of East Germany and a further step in the spread of democracy through central and Eastern Europe. We look forward to the establishment of a democratic government in East Germany and shall want to work ~~closely~~ with it.

It is now for the people of East Germany to ^{decide} pronounce through their elected representatives ^{when} whether they wish ^{for to seek} for unification. We ~~shall of course respect their wishes and welcome a decision in favour of unification, if that is the~~ outcome.

In anticipation of ^{their wishes} that, we are already considering the external consequences of unification within the Four plus Two talks and with our allies and partners in NATO and the European Community. I am also looking forward to discussing all these matters with Chancellor Kohl during the Anglo-German Summit in Cambridge and London in 10 days' time.

It is a great day for ^{Germany} Germany and for Europe, and we all send the people of East Germany our warm congratulations and good wishes for the future.

17 March 1990